

Physical Obedience Brings Victory

Exodus 17:9-13 - ⁹ Moses said to Joshua, “Choose some of our men and go out to fight the Amalekites. Tomorrow I will stand on top of the hill with the staff of God in my hands.”

¹⁰ So Joshua fought the Amalekites as Moses had ordered, and Moses, Aaron and Hur went to the top of the hill. ¹¹ As long as Moses held up his hands, the Israelites were winning, but whenever he lowered his hands, the Amalekites were winning. ¹² When Moses’ hands grew tired, they took a stone and put it under him and he sat on it. Aaron and Hur held his hands up—one on one side, one on the other—so that his hands remained steady till sunset. ¹³ So Joshua overcame the Amalekite army with the sword.

Moses and the children of Israel were fighting the Amalekites. And God told him to go up on the mountain and *lift his hands toward heaven!*****

He said in **V11**: ***Lift your hands Moses.***

- ***God commanded*** him to **lift his hands**.
- ***And notice***, if he **had his hands** in a physical posture raised toward heaven, in obedience ***to what God told him to do, the children of Israel had victory!***

Moses had to do what God told him to do, with a physical command.

Notice he had to do it:

- ***In a certain place of posture***, the way he held his body or what he did with his body.
- **If he had physical obedience**, he was winning the battle in the unseen world. **Because of his physical obedience.**

This story is important because it reinforces the fact that our physical obedience, (Listen) brings spiritual release and victory.

You can say, well, ***if God’s going to win the battle, He will just win the battle.***

- **And yes, he can win it every time.**
- **But my friends that is not enough.**

In this story **God said...**

- ***What you do with*** your physical body and your posture
- ***Moses determines*** whether this battle is going to be won or lost.
- Because physical obedience ***brings spiritual release and spiritual victory.***

That's why this story is so important, that somehow, there is a connection between what we do physically, and what happens spiritually.

- **What we do** here with our physical bodies, will make a difference of what happens in the unseen world.
- **When Moses obeyed,** angels were released into the battlefield of Amalek.
- **When Moses raised his hands** physically, **God brought the victory** to not only Moses but also Israel.
- **Why? Because God told him to do it!**

Our physical bodies and postures are important to God.

- **Our ability to make our flesh,** mind ourselves, is worship that is very important to God.
- **Because if his hands started coming down,** then the angels would withdraw themselves and ***Amalek started winning*** the battle.
- But ***if Moses kept physical obedience*** and kept his arms and hands up in the air toward heaven, **God would allow** the angels to fight, and Israel would then win.
- ***Angels fight for us!***

Hebrews 1:14 says: Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?

- **Angels are out fighting for us** and to render themselves as spirits to minister and fight for us.

Hebrews 1:7 says: ⁷ And of the angels He says: "Who makes His angels spirits And His ministers a flame of fire."

- He will make his ministers flames of fire!
- When we have physical obedience, **He will fight for us.**

- **Unseen angels** will be there to fight the battles as they did with Moses, **when we obey him physically.**
- **God will release** the angels into any situation, when we learn to obey him with our hands raised.

Here's the point...

- **Hands are raised**, and if **Moses** obeys what God tells him to do with his physical body, and his hands and arms in a physical posture.
- **The battle is won** because what he is doing physically with his body.
- **If his hands go down**, he begins to lose the battle.
- But if his hands stay up, he begins **to win the battle.**

1 Timothy 2:8 - Men and Women in the Church - ⁸I desire therefore that the men pray everywhere, **lifting up holy hands**, without wrath and doubting.

The word "**wrath**" means, ***don't get mad about the instruction God is giving***, to do something physically.

- We are to do it without **wrath** and do it without **doubting**.
- **Doubting means don't question...** Like what good does it do to raise my hands?
- **Don't question** when God tells you to do something physically.

He said, **lift your hands without wrath and doubt.** In other words, don't stand there arguing with God, saying, **I don't have to do that!**

- No, the truth is, **physical obedience** brings spiritual release and victory every time.
- And how much more, **if the raising of the hands brought victory** and worked in the Old Testament and old covenant.

What would our physical obedience bring? like fasting, prayer and lifting our hands **in worship and praise** under the New Testament and New Covenant?

- God said to **"Lift up holy hands"!**
- **The best and most effective way** to conquer the spirit of Amalek, is to help each other in our praise.

- **Lift one another's hands.** Support and encourage each other.
- In this way, we will **wipe out the spirit that despises** the blessings of God completely.

Physical obedience brings spiritual release and victory.

Psalm 134:1-2 - ¹ Praise the LORD, all you servants of the LORD who minister by night in the house of the LORD.

² **Lift up your hands** in the sanctuary and praise the LORD.

Psalm 63:4 - ⁴ I will praise you as long as I live, and in your name **I will lift up my hands.**

Lamentations 3:40-41 - ⁴⁰ Let us examine our ways and test them, and let us return to the LORD. ⁴¹ Let us **lift up our hearts and our hands** to God in heaven

Psalm 28:1-3 - Rejoicing in Answered Prayer - A Psalm of David.

28 To You I will cry, O LORD my Rock: Do not be silent to me, Lest, if You *are* silent to me, I become like those who go down to the pit. ² Hear the voice of my supplications When I cry to You, **When I lift up my hands** toward Your holy sanctuary. ³ Do not take me away with the wicked And with the workers of iniquity, Who speak peace to their neighbors, But evil *is* in their hearts.

- **We are to lift our hands in the sanctuary.**
- **We are lift our hands to his wonderful name.**
- We are to **lift our hearts and hands** unto the God of heaven.
- And we are to **cry unto God and lift our hands** with his holiness.

And finally Hear me well!

The Amalekites were some of the nastiest, most devious enemies that Israel would face.

- They were predators who **worked every possible angle, to take advantage of the weaknesses of their foes.**
- **Always trying to manipulate.**

Now hear me again well!

- **The Amalekites weren't** an enemy who would face them face to face.
- They would **sneak around and attack** from a distance or **they would try to catch them in** a precarious spot.
- **Like when Israel was trying** to cross a river, or navigating a pass in the mountains, or during times of rest.

We need to defeat that spirit of the Amalekites.

- **We need stop it in its tracks.**
- Get into the posture of prayer and **get physical** to have the angelic protection of God.
- **Learn to worship and praise him** in the sanctuary.

Amalek is defeated when we obey physically.

- **The spirit of nasty voices** is defeated when we have **physical obedience** to our Lord.
- **The enemy will attack** our kids.
- He will attack our greatest weakness.
- He will attack unfairly.
- He will attack unexpectedly.

The remedy and answer is our physical obedience unto God!

- Make yourself **physically perseverant**, through the weariness.
- Make our bodies **obey and become** that living sacrifice with a life of prayer and worship and **lifting my hands** even when I do not feel like it.
- That means we will have to make a conscious effort to **keep praying no matter what dilemmas** or **weariness** face us in life.

Paul said ***I put my body under subjection***, in other words, ***I make my body obey!***

1 Corinthians 9:27 - ²⁷ But I discipline my body and bring *it* into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified.

Hear me church!

There is a vast difference in **those who get answers from God** and **those who do not**.

It is their willingness to physically obey and by obeying, they will receive God's power.

- **It's our willingness to prevail in prayer and worship and by the lifting of our hands, despite the weariness of the battle.**
- ***Because our physical obedience will bring us victory!***

CLOSE:

Last question...

How long did Moses keep his hands raised to God in prayer and worship?

- **Until Amalek was totally defeated.**

Exodus 17:13 - ¹³ So Joshua defeated Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword.

So, we see very plainly our physical obedience brings us all victory!